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**PROBABLE
SOLID PROPELLANTS TEST FACILITY
TAI-YUAN, CHINA**



CIA



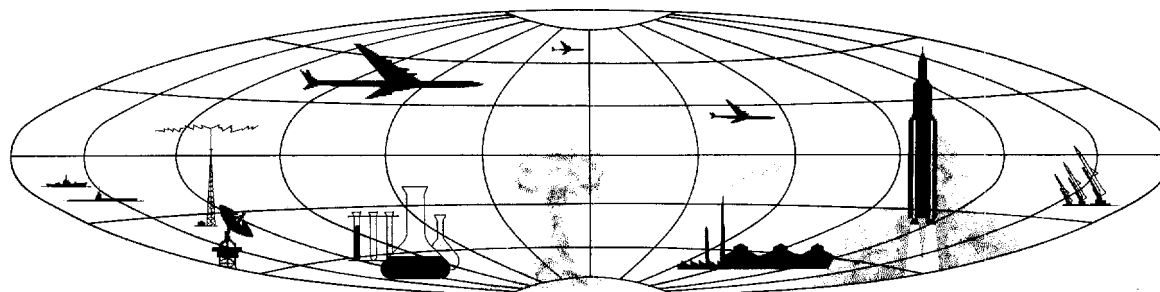
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PROBABLE SOLID PROPELLANTS TEST FACILITY TAI-YUAN, CHINA

A probable solid propellants test facility (37-59N 112-33E) is located adjacent to the northeast corner of the Tai-yuan Explosives Plant (BE No [REDACTED] Tai-yuan Missile Propellant Production*), the southernmost plant

of the Explosives and Ammunition Complex on the northern edge of Tai-yuan, China (Figures 1 and 2). The facility, [REDACTED] is similar in many respects to five Soviet probable solid propellants test facilities.

DESCRIPTION

The Probable Solid Propellants Test Facility is a walled area served only by roads (Figure 3). It contains a multilevel, irregular-shaped building (Building No 5) identified as a probable test cell and an earth bunker/deflector under construction approximately 350 feet away; a three-level, L-shaped major support building (Building No 3); an unidentified two-level irregular-shaped building (Building No 2); nine unidentified rectangular, probably single-story buildings; one revetted building; and one earth bunker. (Plan and perspective views of Building Nos 2, 3, and 5 are shown in Figure 4.)

The Probable Solid Propellants Test Facility

adjoins the Shell-testing Facility of the explosives plant (Figure 3). The Shell-testing Facility consists principally of two tunnel ranges, two firing emplacements, an open range, and a revetted storage building. It has not changed perceptibly since [REDACTED]

Two revetted structures are located in the adjacent part of the explosives plant (Figure 2).

[REDACTED] They are connected to the Probable Solid Propellants Test Facility by a good road and are probably associated with that facility. They were constructed within the same time span as that of the probable test facility.

CHRONOLOGY

The probable test facility was not present at the time of [REDACTED] photography, but [REDACTED] photography revealed the probable test cell and three or four buildings in early stages of construction. [REDACTED] photography showed the facility in late stages of construction with features suggesting a pilot plant possibly associated with

solid propellants. The identification of the facility as a probable solid propellants test facility rather than a pilot plant was made from photography of [REDACTED] 1/ At that time the facility appeared to be still under construction and there were no definite indicators that any testing had taken place.

COMPARISON

Five Soviet probable solid propellants test facilities are located at Biysk, Perm, Sterlitamak, Krasnoyarsk, and Kamensk-Shakhtinskiy, USSR. 2/ They are all located in close proximity

to explosives/chemical plants. They consist principally of one or more test cell buildings and associated bunker/deflectors and a large or complex building for support purposes as well as other related structures. At three of the Soviet sites the major support buildings are

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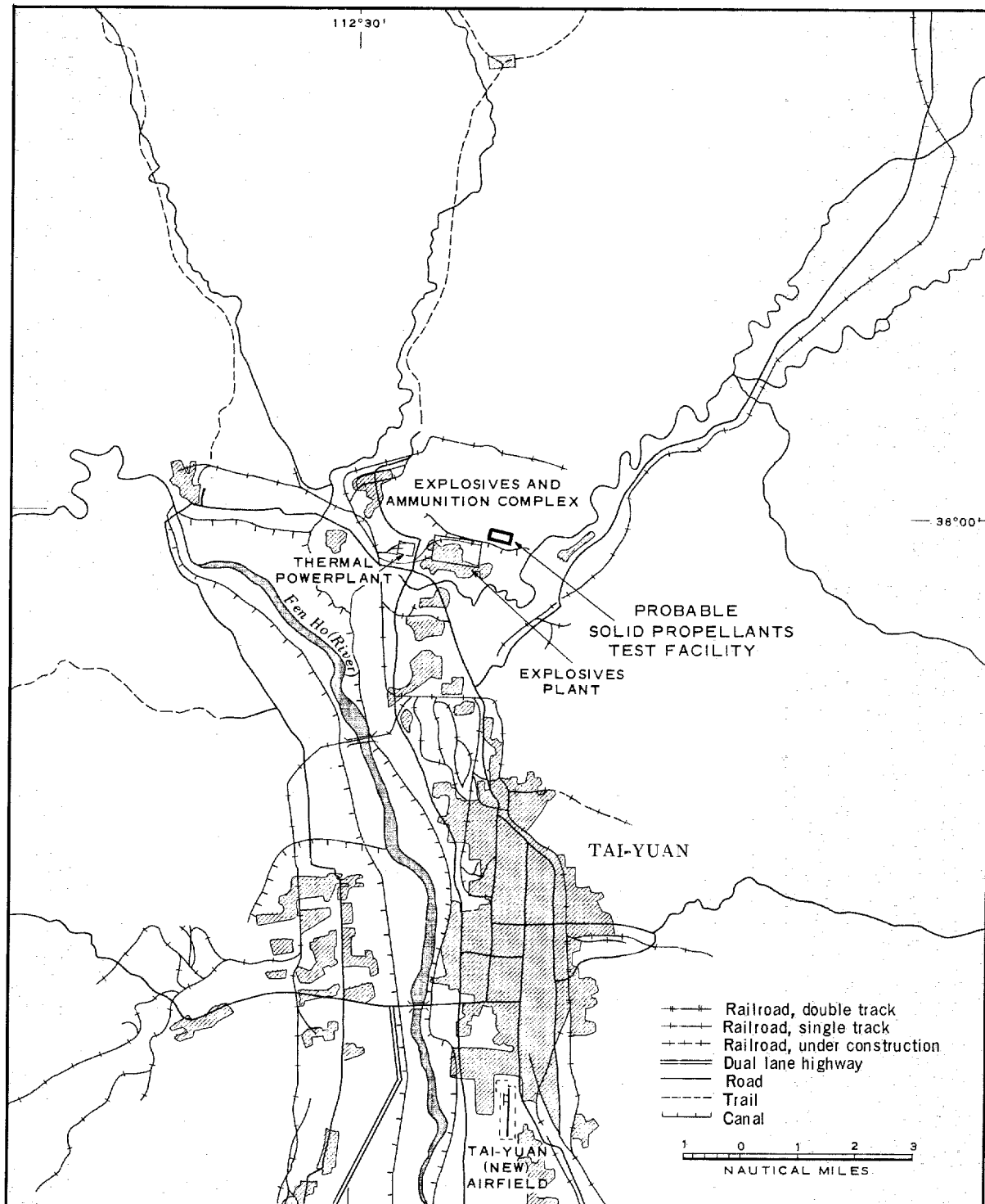


FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

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